

## SCHOOL BOARD BYLAWS

Policy Adoption, Amendment and SuspensionA. Adoption and Amendment

Policy proposals and suggested amendments to or revisions of existing policies shall be submitted to members of the Stafford County School Board and to the superintendent in writing prior to a regularly scheduled school board meeting in which such proposed policies, amendments, or revisions shall be read or discussed. A vote for adoption shall take place at the next succeeding regular meeting of the school board. A majority vote of the membership of the school board shall be needed for the adoption of a policy.

Exception to the above may be taken when in the opinion of board members the immediate adoption of a policy is in the best interest of the school division. The board may suspend its rules by a majority vote of the members and bring the proposed policy to the floor for immediate adoption.

B. Suspension

Policies of the school board shall be subject to suspension only upon a majority vote of the members of the school board present at a meeting in the call for which the proposed suspension has been described in writing, or upon a unanimous vote of the board when no such written notice has been given.

Legal Reference: (1992) Former Section §22.1-253.12 of the Code of Virginia was Repealed by Act 1988; it was replaced by Section §22.1-253.13:7.

Code of Va., §22.1-253.13:7. Standard 7. Policy manual.-

"A. The General Assembly and the Board of Education recognize the need to apprise the local school boards of the laws and regulations governing operation of local school divisions.

B. The Board of Education shall, in a timely manner, make available to local school boards copies of current Virginia school laws, Board regulations and revisions, and copies of relevant Opinions of the Attorney General of Virginia.

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Legal Reference: (continued)

Code of Va., §22.1-253.13:7. (continued)

C. Each local school board shall maintain and follow an up-to-date policy manual. All policy manuals shall be reviewed at least every five years and revised as needed. The policy manual shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Valid copies of Article 3 (§22.1-306 et seq.) of Chapter 15 of this title, concerning grievances, dismissals, etc. of teachers, and the implementation procedures prescribed by the General Assembly and the Board of Education; and

2. A cooperatively developed procedure for personnel evaluation appropriate to tasks performed by those being evaluated.

D. Each local school board shall ensure that the policy manual includes the following policies, which shall be developed giving consideration to the views of teachers, parents, and other concerned citizens:

1. A system of two-way communication between employees and the local school board and its administrative staff whereby matters of concern can be discussed in an orderly and constructive manner;

2. A policy for the selection and evaluation of all instructional materials purchased by the school division, with clear procedures for handling challenged controversial materials;

3. The standards of student conduct and attendance and enforcement procedures designed to provide that public education be conducted in an atmosphere free of disruption and threat to persons or property and supportive of individual rights;

4. A policy for school-community communications and community involvement; and

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Legal Reference: (continued)

Code of Va., §22.1-253.13:7. (continued)

5. Guidelines to encourage parents to provide instructional assistance to their children in the home, which may include voluntary training for the parents of children in grades K through 3.

An up-to-date copy of the school division policy manual shall be kept in the library of each school and in any public library in that division and shall be available to employees and to the public. An annual announcement shall be made in each division advising the public that the policy manual is available in such places. (1988, c. 645, 682, 754; 1990, c. 291; 1992, c. 591.)

Adopted by School Board: March 24, 1987